

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MAYOR TOM CUNNINGHAM, A MAN
FOR THE PEOPLE

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 1997

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I take the floor today to recognize one of the great men in my district. In the words of Edmund Burke, one of the great statesmen to serve in the British House of Commons, "Great men are the guideposts and landmarks in the state." No phrase is more attributable to Mayor Tom Cunningham of Hyndman, PA. For the last 28 years, Tom Cunningham has served as mayor to the small town of Hyndman, PA. For 24 of those years, I had the distinct pleasure of representing Hyndman and working hand-in-hand with Tom on helping to improve the lives of our constituents.

Now the time has come in Tom's life, after a stellar career in service to his country and his neighbors, that he has decided to retire. His resume speaks for itself; a Korean war veteran, a borough councilman, member of the Hyndman Rescue Squad, volunteer to the Boy Scouts of America, Post Commander of the VFW, board member to the Bedford County Development Association, Hyndman-Londonderry Industrial Development Corp., the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Bedford, and the Bedford County Planning Commission. The recipient of many awards and honors, Tom's success as mayor leaves a powerful legacy to everyone who knows him.

My most memorable experience working with Mayor Tom, and probably Tom's too, has been the reoccurring flooding problem in Hyndman. Wills Creek, which runs directly through Hyndman, is notorious for its flood problems. The cause of thousands of dollars of damage to the small borough, Wills Creek was Mayor Tom Cunningham's biggest challenge. A challenge which could not be conquered without the strong leadership and perseverance exemplified by Mayor Tom. Tom worked hard to rally the support of the citizens of Hyndman to demand action from Federal and State governments. It was truly a privilege to assist Tom in his battle against bureaucratic redtape which in the end almost prevented a solution to Wills Creek flooding. However, Tom's perseverance prevailed and the borough he so aptly represents, will soon have a permanent flood protection project. While all of Hyndman's problems may not be completely solved, Mayor Tom Cunningham's life work has helped make Hyndman what it is today, a wonderful place to live. In the words of Walter Lippmann, a noted journalist, "The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men the conviction and the will to carry on." I know for a fact that Tom has accomplished this task. I am one of the "other men" who will work hard to continue Tom's fight.

Even though he is retiring, I know we have not heard the last from Tom Cunningham. As

his history has proven, I am sure Tom will remain active in the community of Hyndman. Mr. Speaker, I am sure you will join me in celebration of Mayor Tom Cunningham's magnificent career. He is truly a great man, a great leader, a great American, and I wish him well in his private life.

HONORING THE NORTH MIAMI
FOUNDATION FOR SENIOR CITI-
ZENS' SERVICES, INC.

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the North Miami Foundation for Senior Citizens' Services, Inc., will celebrate 22 years of community service on May 14, 1997, at their 19th annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. Held in conjunction with Older Americans Month, the foundation will thank those volunteers who offer services to the elderly in the North Dade community.

In 1996, volunteers with the foundation gave freely of 25,835 chore service hours, 34,533 hours of friendly companionship visits, and 59,773 telephone reassurance calls. In addition, 9,700 hours of special projects were conducted by local organizations and schools. To underscore the importance that such volunteer efforts play with the foundation, these hours total the equivalent of 47 full-time staff positions.

The foundation inspires the devotion of hundreds of people on a yearly basis. Certainly, all who work there find their efforts a labor of love. Without these caring and dedicated individuals the services provided by the foundation would not be possible. My thanks to each of you and congratulations for a job well done.

H.R. 1045

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced H.R. 1045 to require that any unpaid work required of welfare recipients as a condition of receiving benefits be credited with wages for the purposes of calculating the Earned Income Tax Credit [EITC] and the Dependent Care Tax Credit.

Under H.R. 1045, the hours worked without direct compensation will be credited as though minimum wage were paid.

It is extremely unfair to require work and then not pay any wages and credit nothing toward Social Security, unemployment compensation, and other wage-based benefits programs. And this is exactly what is allowed under the new welfare reform law. States will be able to enact workfare programs in which

welfare recipients are forced to work off their welfare benefit, rather than receiving real wages.

Under H.R. 1045, unpaid work required to remain eligible for cash assistance will be translated into real wages for the purpose of claiming earned income tax credits.

If work is a virtue, then all work should be treated the same.

I urge my colleagues to support my bill, H.R. 1045.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN COOKSEY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 1997

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 30, I was necessarily absent. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NOT
PARTICIPATE IN ARAFAT CON-
FERENCE

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 1997

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned that the State Department has agreed to participate in an international conference convened by the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. This is part of a strategy of confrontation with Israel and would be a serious mistake. It is my hope the State Department reconsiders this decision.

It appears that the Palestinian Government is attempting to drive a wedge between the United States and Israel. Distancing the United States from Israel encourages the tendency for Palestinians to negotiate with the United States instead of negotiating directly with Israel. Disregarding the existing negotiation process is counterproductive to the peace process.

Without question, the administration's record of support for the United States-Israel relationship has been commendable. Participation in this conference, however, would only tarnish that record. The United States simply does not belong in any type or organization—formal or informal—that is established to isolate and pressure Israel.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK VALENTINO,
POET OF THE JERSEY SHORE

HON. FRANK PALLONE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 1997

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to represent a section of the Jersey

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